



IPC Afghanistan – Final

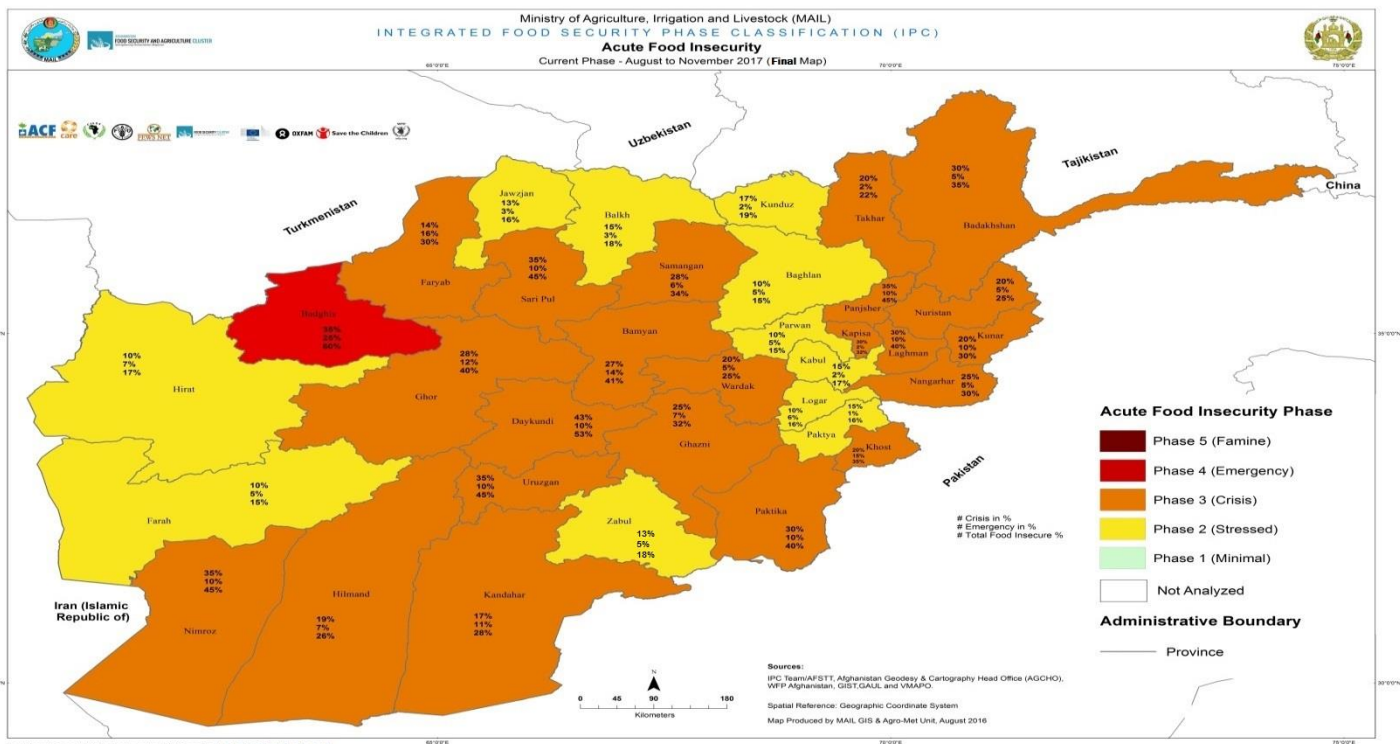
Acute Food Insecurity Situation Overview

Current Aug-Nov 2017

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HIGHLIGHTS - IPC Acute Food Insecurity Situation for August- Nov 2017

- IPC current post harvest analysis show slightly better food security situation than pre-harvest IPC acute analysis of 2016. Out of 34 provinces 11 are classified in phase-2, other 22 were classified in phase-3 and only one province Badghis is classified in phase-4.
- Out of 22 provinces classified in phase-3, provinces with higher number of proportions in phase- 4 are: Badghis (25%), Faryab (16%), Khost (15%), Bamyan (14%), Ghor (12%) and Kandahar (11%).
- Kabul, Nangarhar, Ghazni, Kandahar, Badakshan, Hirat, Faryab and Badghis provinces have the highest population in Phase-3 or above, respectively. For Kabul and Hirat which are not classified in Phase-3 or higher, it is due to high number of population residing in these provinces.
- Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), communities hosting returnees, returnees, refugees, households headed by female, relying on labour income, landless are most vulnerable and worst affected by food insecurity. Food security assessment by OCHA and food security and agriculture cluster show high level of food insecurity in these group crossing emergency thresholds.
- Conflicts, natural disasters, huge influx of returnees and in some areas IDPs, unsustainable livelihoods, poor infrastructures, reduced employment and income which affects household purchasing power, lack of access and poor utilization of food and under development as a whole are the major drivers of food insecurity in Afghanistan.
- In some areas chronic food insecurity is crossing or about to cross emergency thresholds of food insecurity.
- Limited resilience to conflicts and shocks are major consequences that further aggravate the food insecurity situation. Asset depletion is on the rise resulting in high concentration of people in phase 2 and 3. This is a dangerous sign which can enhance migration and food insecurity so more attention is required to protect and rehabilitate the livelihoods of affected people.



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Classification of severity of acute food insecurity conducted according to the IPC Protocols.

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OVERVIEW OF SEVERITY OF CURRENT Acute Food Insecurity Situation

- During the post-harvest condition of the country a total of 11.2 million people have currently achieved food security. These people are able to meet food and essential non-food needs without engaging in a typical, unsustainable strategies to access food and none food basic needs without any reliance on humanitarian aid.
- For the period of August- Nov 2017, overall 26% people are classified as in crisis and emergency situation. Badghis is the only province classified in phase-4. In addition, Faryab, Khost, Bamyán, Ghor and Kandahar are the provinces classified in phase-3 with higher number of population in emergency.
- Compared to 2016 pre-harvest IPC analysis where only 8.2 million people were classified in phase 1 (They were able to meet their essential food and none food needs all over the country), the current 2017 IPC acute analysis shows that 11.5 million people are having such situation due to post harvest conditions.
- In addition to 2016 returnee's burden, almost additional 341,561 documented and undocumented returnees returned to Afghanistan and competing with local communities on already oversaturated labour market and limited livelihoods options. Very high level of food insecurity is witnessed in current MAIL led district level assessment in east where the 57% of the returnees are moderately food insecure and 15% are severely food insecure needing immediate assistance.
- National wheat production all over the country was deficit by 1 million MT, and this year reduced precipitation brought further deficit (1.4 million MT), in wheat production, particularly in rain-fed wheat areas. Meanwhile, reduced precipitation had its negative implication on pasture condition for livestock raising regions.
- Continued conflict and increasing migration waves are affecting both urban and rural poor. Rural population have less marketable skills for urban market resulting in saturating unskilled labour market where demand of the labour is stagnant whereas supply is significantly increased. According to SFSA 2017, 46% population faced some type of shocks with highest percentage of people facing loss of employment (26.6%) and reduce income (12.6%).
- During the period January 2017 to October 2017 almost 268,689 people have been displaced due to ongoing conflict in majority of the provinces in Afghanistan. Due to resistance of armed groups provision of humanitarian assistance to the targeted area is a big challenge. Badghis, Faryab, Uruzgan, Nimroz and Nangarhar are the provinces encountered sever insecurity incidents and pave the ground for wave of the internal displacement.
- From January till October 2017, 45,205 individuals have been affected by natural disasters across the country, flood & Flash floods comprise major shocks in Hirat, Nimroz, Balkh, Baghlan , Nangarhar and Badakhshan.
- One of the minor cause of decreased in wheat area cultivation was increased of poppy cultivation. Comparing to last year poppy cultivation area is increased by 10,613 hectare, which indicates good sign in terms of achieving satisfactory income only for those households whom they are directly engaged as producer, trader and daily labour.
- Meanwhile, livestock distress sales, lack of extension services and poor access to fodder facilities are of main concerns for the higher altitude provinces.
- Overall, food utilization is one of the major driving factors of food insecurity in Afghanistan. Poor access to safe water and improved sanitation, poor access to safe fuel for cooking (Gas and electricity), high level of illiteracy rate of women and very low level of nutrition and food security knowledge are of high concern for this pillar of food security.
- Access to food is a big challenge because of decrease in income, low production, harsh climatic conditions, low productivity of the agriculture land and livestock, lack of access to quality farm inputs and extension services. Afghanistan has access to regional food markets so in spite of crop production deficit food is available in the market but people lack income and resources to buy food.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICY AND DECISION MAKERS

- Government and partners should intensify the focus on increasing the capacity of recurrent hazards affected populations to avert upcoming shocks and stresses. Moreover, they must further articulate policies that look to synchronize humanitarian emergency assistance and longer-term development to break the poverty cycle.
- Contain asset depletion by all possible means as because of the continued conflict and income shocks asset depletion is getting higher and higher as a coping strategy. Emergency food security and livelihoods assistance can help to protect household assets.
- While mass repatriation from Pakistan must be accompanied with effective government policies that facilitate the returnees reinsertion and help lessen liabilities of host communities, it should not distract from the continuing needs of those who are increasingly leaving homes and assets in all parts of Afghanistan so that they can save their own and children's lives.
- Reduced precipitation, continued conflict and crop pest attack are also major factors contributing to food insecurity. Introduction of drought resilient crop varieties and timely monitoring and control on crop pest attack can contribute to food security for the most vulnerable farmers.
- It is important that stakeholders recognize the complexity of the contexts in which diverse populations are facing food insecurity in Afghanistan, and continue to develop strategies that are appropriate and effective depending on context and populations.
- 46% population faced some type of shocks with highest percentage of people facing loss of employment (26.6%) and reduces income (12.6%). Urban markets are saturated with labor and labor availability and wage rates are affected significantly. Early recovery and creating job opportunities which contributes to reduce the crisis situation is recommended.
- Livestock distress sale is increasing because of the livestock diseases and low availability of the fodder. Climate change has a major impact on range land decreasing livestock productivity.
- Reduce risk of natural hazards, by applying interagency joint DRR projects and natural disaster prone areas.
- Establish a clear interagency policy and strategy for IDPs, returnees and refugees.
- Monitoring the food assistance and track out the impacts on food security situation.

NEXT STEPS FOR ANALYSIS, MONITORING AND UPDATES

- *The seasonal assessment should be carried out at least once per year with district level coverage in Afghanistan to timely inform the IPC..*
- *It's strongly recommended by the IPC TWG to have district level data for food security direct and contributing indicators.*
- *Thresholds, with the support of specialists, could be developed for some key contributing factors indicators taking into account livelihoods.*
- *It is recommended to liaise and consult with MoPH, UNICEF and other organizations involved in nutrition surveys to provide timely credible nutrition information into IPC acute analysis.*
- *Within upcoming 2 months IPC TWG will have another round of IPC analysis for north east region of the country with district level coverage.*
- *Chronic application of IPC with support of GSU is strongly recommended as this is really needed in Afghanistan, considering the chronic nature of food insecurity, so this needs to be considered for upcoming year in order to differentiate the underlying and casual causes of food insecurity in the country.*
- *Market monitoring, to see food availability and prices is one of the key determinants as many Afghans are relying on markets for the food. As the flow of IDP's and returnees is increasing, there is need to monitor market conditions on regular basis.*



Population Table for current Period(Aug- Nov 2017)

S/N	province	Population	Minimal		Stress		Crisis		Emergency		Total Phase 3 & 4	
			%	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%	Population
1	Badakhshan	983,277	31%	304,816	34%	334,314	30%	294,983	5%	49,164	35%	344,147
2	Badghis	513,930	15%	77,090	25%	128,483	35%	179,876	25%	128,483	60%	308,358
3	Baghlan	979,178	35%	342,712	50%	489,589	10%	97,918	5%	48,959	15%	146,877
4	Balkh	1,392,089	40%	556,836	42%	584,677	15%	208,813	3%	41,763	18%	250,576
5	Bamyan	462,954	14%	64,814	45%	208,329	27%	124,998	14%	64,814	41%	189,811
6	Daykundi	475,900	24%	114,216	23%	109,457	43%	204,637	10%	47,590	53%	252,227
7	Farah	526,576	40%	210,630	45%	236,959	10%	52,658	5%	26,329	15%	78,986
8	Faryab	1,036,375	35%	362,731	35%	362,731	14%	145,093	16%	165,820	30%	310,913
9	Ghazni	1,273,079	33%	420,116	35%	445,578	25%	318,270	7%	89,116	32%	407,385
10	Ghor	713,354	10%	71,335	50%	356,677	28%	199,739	12%	85,602	40%	285,342
11	Hilmand	961,191	29%	278,745	45%	432,536	19%	182,626	7%	67,283	26%	249,910
12	Hirat	1,968,963	40%	787,585	43%	846,654	10%	196,896	7%	137,827	17%	334,724
13	Jawzjan	568,992	41%	233,287	43%	244,667	13%	73,969	3%	17,070	16%	91,039
14	Kabul	4,766,635	55%	2,621,649	28%	1,334,658	15%	714,995	2%	95,333	17%	810,328
15	Kandahar	1,304,983	30%	391,495	42%	548,093	17%	221,847	11%	143,548	28%	365,395
16	Kapisa	457,228	18%	82,301	50%	228,614	30%	137,168	2%	9,145	32%	146,313
17	Khost	648,891	51%	330,934	14%	90,845	20%	129,778	15%	97,334	35%	227,112
18	Kunar	499,573	50%	249,787	20%	99,915	20%	99,915	10%	49,957	30%	149,872
19	Kunduz	1,093,382	45%	492,022	36%	393,618	17%	185,875	2%	21,868	19%	207,743
20	Laghman	506,464	45%	227,909	15%	75,970	30%	151,939	10%	50,646	40%	202,586
21	Logar	444,615	40%	177,846	44%	195,631	10%	44,462	6%	26,677	16%	71,138
22	Nangarhar	1,844,938	50%	922,469	20%	368,988	25%	461,235	5%	92,247	30%	553,481
23	Nimruz	171,126	30%	51,338	25%	42,782	35%	59,894	10%	17,113	45%	77,007
24	Nooristan	153,081	35%	53,578	40%	61,232	20%	30,616	5%	7,654	25%	38,270
25	Paktika	489,182	50%	244,591	10%	48,918	30%	146,755	10%	48,918	40%	195,673
26	Paktya	606,400	60%	363,840	23%	139,472	15%	90,960	2%	12,128	17%	103,088
27	Panjsher	159,233	25%	39,808	30%	47,770	35%	55,732	10%	15,923	45%	71,655
28	Parwan	693,086	35%	242,580	50%	346,543	10%	69,309	5%	34,654	15%	103,963
29	Samangan	404,164	33%	133,374	33%	133,374	28%	113,166	6%	24,250	34%	137,416
30	Sari Pul	583,905	25%	145,976	30%	175,172	35%	204,367	10%	58,391	45%	262,757
31	Takhar	1,022,411	45%	460,085	33%	337,396	20%	204,482	2%	20,448	22%	224,930
32	Uruzgan	363,056	30%	108,917	25%	90,764	35%	127,070	10%	36,306	45%	163,375
33	Wardak	619,770	30%	185,931	45%	278,897	20%	123,954	5%	30,989	25%	154,943
34	Zabul	315,975	37%	116,911	45%	142,189	13%	41,077	5%	15,799	18%	56,876
	Total	29,003,956	39.49%	11,452,456	34.29%	9,945,689	20%	5,710,868	6%	1,894,944	26.22	7,605,811



WORST AFFECTED PROVINCES PROFILE

Badghis: Analysis of the outcome elements on FCS indicates that 56% of households have poor food consumption and 27% are using distress coping strategy, both are in phase 4. The food consumption coping strategies and diet diversity are also indicating Phase 4 situation. Badghis province experienced the displacement of 15,604 individuals. Around 98% of the HHs reported to have experienced different shocks. MAIL APR indicates 23,000 MT wheat deficits with the localized rat infestation in Badghis affecting the harvest. Agriculture is the main livelihood here, thus loss in harvest has implication on the households food stock. Despite the agricultural labour wage is stable during 2017 the agriculture labour TOT with regards to wheat and wheat flour have deteriorated by 7.5% and 21.2% respectively. About 52% of the population spend more than 75% of their income on food. The utilization data reports that more than 95% of the households do not have access to improved sources of water and latrine. Considering the entire contributing and outcome indicators 25% of the population of this provinces is classified in phase 4.

Faryab: 40% of the population have poor and borderline food consumption score, 53.3% of the population are using either high coping strategies or medium coping strategies which indicate that the situation of this province is in crisis which requires urgent action to protect livelihood and reduce food consumption gaps. Wheat production has improved by 9% in 2017 compared to 2016 but the overall surplus is 51000 MT. Many factors have been contributing to deteriorate the living conditions of this province and increase food insecurity. 52.7% reduction in income is a huge loss to people of this region accompanied by other disasters such as floods which also affected almost 1250 families in two of the major districts. Conflicts in this region are another concern and so far it has caused 8519 individuals to displace to other parts of the country. 11% decrease in accumulated precipitation also means that agriculture has declined to some extent as compared to previous year.

Badakhshan: 37% decrease in precipitation resulted to 77% decrease in wheat harvest and the province has 134,860 MT wheat deficits. The province is having 10,182 conflict IDPs and 3,500 natural disaster affected people. 41.4% of households were affected by shock. The province is highly prone to natural hazards (floods, landslides, dry spell and land degradation). The province is highly chronically food insecure and it is suffering from inaccessibility issues in its 13 districts, while other 3 districts of the province do not have any road from Afghanistan side. 19% of household do not have access to improved drinking water. 95% of households do not have access to improved latrines and Poor access to fresh vegetable and fruits (limited to 8 districts whole year) and scarce during winter for all districts are the major reasons that the province falls in crises situation with the following percentages of outcome indicators: FCS: 41%, rCSI: 26%, LCS 30 days: 7% LCS 12 months: 34%, overall at least 30 % of the population of this province is classified in phase 3.

Hilmand: The community of Helmand is exposed to security threats and have no resilience capacity to any hazards. The main source of income for the community is Agriculture wage labour (71.9%) followed by transport (7.8%). These two sources of incomes will highly be affected by low rain fall and land mines in the region. Based on SFSA FCS shows almost 20% people are s borderline line indicating phase 3. Livelihood based coping strategies indicating 11%, and crisis is 9%. During 2017, 5880 HHs are displaced due to on-going conflicts in this province whom they are pressurizing on the host communities. In terms of wheat production this province is 237MT surplus that is paving the ground for agriculture labour during August-Nov 2017. Overall, 38% of the population will be classified in phase 3, whom they will be able to meet minimum food requirements with accelerated depletion of livelihood assets due to ongoing prolong conflicts between government and AGEs.

Nangarhar: Nangarhar is prone to ISK, AGEs, border shelling and natural disaster that continuously affecting the local communities and people in the rural areas by limiting their access to agriculture land and livelihoods which case displacement. Influx of documented and undocumented returnees are very high that almost 80% of the these returnees settled in Nangarhar which affected the food security and increased unemployment. High level of population having no access to the improved latrines including safe drinking water that affects the food utilization of the people in the province. 18.2% of the HHs are relying on agriculture labor wage which is seasonal and not stable. this province is 105000 MT deficit. SFSA was carried out in post-harvest situation that still FCS 44% indicating phase 3. The LCS (40%) for distress and crisis showing Phase 3 that accelerate the depletion of assets that will lead to high food gap and GAM is 12.6 showing phase 3 as well. overall, province is classified in phase 3.

Ghor: Total 7932 Individuals displaced from Ghor province due to conflict and 170 individuals are affected due to natural hazards. In 2017, Around 60 % of the cultivated land is affected by locust in 2 districts. Ghor DAIL, officially declared dryspell. Total deficit of wheat production is 69.6% (-100,140 MT) this year . 5% of the population has poor FCS,14% households have taken high coping (rCSI). In the past 30 days, 26% of the households have distress livelihood coping strategies. 26.2% of the population is having very high food expenditure share. 99% of the household has access to non-improved sources of latrines and 48% of the household has access to non-improved drinking water sources.66.1% of the population are taking 4-5 different types of food groups while 26.2% are taking 1-3 food groups. 81.1% unsustainable income source. GAM WFH CI is 12.2% (9.6-15.4 95% CI) & MUAC<125mm CI is 14.3%. In 2017, Ghor province has received 64% of the accumulative precipitation.



Daykundi: 53% of the population have poor and borderline food consumption score, 51% of the population are using either high coping strategies or medium coping strategies which indicate that the situation of this province is in crisis which requires urgent action to protect livelihood and reduce food consumption gaps. Wheat production has improved by 24.35% in 2017 compared to 2016 but the overall deficit is still 19%. HDDS indicates that 33.8% of the population are taking 1-3 different types of food groups out of eight different food groups. 31% of the population are using distress or crisis coping strategies.

14.8% of the under-five population is acutely malnourished in Daikundi province. Considering the evidence and reports, the TWG members agreed that the nutritional status of Daikundi province is affected by the poor access to safe drinking water, poor sanitation, poor food consumption score and poor food dietary diversity score.

Bamyan: 38% of the population have poor and borderline food consumption score, 45% of the households are using either high coping strategies or medium coping strategies which indicate that the situation of this province is in crisis which requires urgent action to protect livelihood and reduce food consumption gaps. Wheat production has slightly improved by 2% compared to last year. 23% of the population are using distress or crisis coping strategies. 61% have access to non-improved drinking water source and 89% of the household have access to non-improved sources of latrines. Keeping in view the outcome indicators and the contributing factors, Bamyan province is classified in Phase 3.

Khost: This province is classified as Phase 3 food insecure. Although it has acceptable food consumption score, 38% HH are in distress coping (phase 4) and GAM rate is 12% (phase 3). In 2017, About 50% of people experienced major shocks which could have contributed to the 55% HH experiencing reduction in income.

The major shocks experienced by the HH were loss of employment (17.6%), livestock disease outbreak (21.2%), huge increase in food prices (9.3%) and severe sickness incidence/natural death of breadwinner (18.1%). 63% HH have no access to improved sources of sanitation which contributed to high incidence of sicknesses for breadwinners. There are also 22% HH with no access to improved water affecting the disease incidence and limit food utilization. Although majority own livestock, they were affected by livestock disease outbreak. Wheat production is low which contributed to the deficit of 38,000MT. About 50% engage in unsustainable livelihood which can easily be affected by shocks/natural calamities.

Kandahar: High insecurity incidences resulting limited access to the market and decrease supply from Pakistan due to border closure resulted high food prices (Pulses price increased 52.9%, Oil price increased 20%, wheat flour price increased 5% in one month).

Meanwhile 43.% of population experienced different shocks (loss of employment by 23%, reduce in income by 9%, livestock diseases by 25%, huge increase in price by 10%).

The main income sources for Kandahar people is 63% agriculture/wage labour, due to low precipitation and not cultivation of rain-fed land resulted 39% of food deficit which could further deteriorate the sit with addition to 12585 IDPs and 10053 returnees to the province.

Based on health data 15.5% of population have sever sickness and 77% of HHs have no access to latrine resulting poor utilization of food and could affect the nutrition status based on above information about 20-30% of population are living in phase #3.

The Process And Methodology

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a set of tools and procedures to classify the nature and severity of food insecurity for decision support. The IPC is a multi-stakeholder process based on broad technical consensus, convergence of evidence, accountability, transparency, and comparability across unit of analysis, countries and over time. The IPC classifies areas with acute food insecurity into five phases –Minimal, Stressed, Crisis, Emergency and Famine -, with each phase aligned with conforming response objectives.

The IPC analysis workshop was conducted from 16-20 Sep 2017 in ministry of agriculture, irrigation and livestock in Kabul. Beside international technical support, over 60 professionals from all regions of Afghanistan representing provincial and central government, UN organizations, NGOs, technical agencies, and Academia attended in this workshop.

For technical support IPC regional units provided their support by sending one of their data analyst to the workshop planned. To complete the IPC global certification process participants from different countries like Bangladesh, Pakistan and Philippine also attended the event.

The data fed into the analysis was organized according to the IPC analytical framework, which includes contributing factors and outcome indicators. It was collected from a wide range of sources; that includes reports from the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), other government institutions at national and provincial levels, and international organizations. To depict the lean season food insecurity situation the latest Seasonal Food Security Assessment (SFSA 2017) conducted by the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) was one of the main data set, beside this SMART surveys and some other relevant sources of information were utilized during the analysis. The analysis was conducted via the IPC Acute ISS, a country-based internet application in which analysis worksheets were filled out and the map was generated.

Due to new changes in the administration of ministry of Agriculture, irrigation and livestock the IPC steering committee has endorsed the findings by 18th of October 2017.



Major Data Sources for IPC Analysis 2017

S/N	Data Source
1	SFSA 2017, SFSA 2016, SFSA 2015 & SFSA 2014-FSAC
2	SMART Surveys 2017-ACF
3	Agriculture Production and Food Price – MAIL
4	Land Cover Atlas-2016 MAIL-FAO
5	Nutrition Data ACF, MoPH, UNICEF
6	Population, ALCS - CSO
7	Food Price, ICA, Food Distribution - WFP
8	NDVI, Precipitation – FEWSNET
9	Pre Harvest Assessment 2016 - FEWSNET, FAO, WFP
10	Refugee & IDP data - UNHCR, OCHA, FSAC, IOM
11	Natural disaster affected population – IOM, FSAC